

CLAIMS

1. A structured surfactant composition capable of suspending solids which comprises surfactant, water and, if required, electrolyte in relative proportions adapted to form a flocculated, dispersed lamellar and/or spherulitic structured surfactant system, and, in addition, sufficient of a deflocculant to inhibit the flocculation of said system characterised in that said deflocculant comprises a water-soluble carbohydrate.
2. A composition according to claim 1 where said carbohydrate is an alginate present in a proportion of from 0.05% to 5% by weight based on the weight of the composition.
3. A composition according to claim 1 wherein said carbohydrate is a mono or disaccharide or derivative thereof in a proportion of from 10 to 20% by weight based on the weight of the composition.
4. A detergent composition comprising :-
 - (A) 20 to 75% by weight of the composition of water;
 - (B) At least 3% based on the weight of the composition, preferably 4 to 10%, surfactant comprising more than 50% based on the total weight of surfactant of non-ionic surfactants having a mean HLB of from 10 to 15 and optionally a smaller proportion of anionic and/or amphoteric surfactant;
 - (C) At least 10% by weight based on the weight of the composition of builders;
 - (D) At least 7% based on the weight of the composition of dissolved non-micelle-forming salts and bases which dissociate at least partially in solution into ions, including any dissolved portion of said builder;

10018849-03480

- (E) A total free alkalinity of at least 0.5 normal;
- (F) Sufficient of a deflocculant to provide, in conjunction with components A to E above a pourable composition which does not separate after 1 month at 25°C;

Wherein said deflocculant comprises a water soluble carbohydrate.

2001.09.19 09:30